

CURRENT LINE

DAR STATEWIDE PROJECT INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1, January 1997

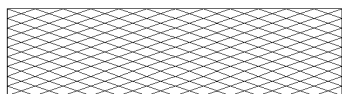
GOVERNOR SEEKS \$2 MILLION INCREASE IN AQUATIC FUNDING

Governor Cayetano, as part of his administrative package, is asking the legislature for a \$2 million annual increase to manage Hawai'i as an "ocean state" and help restore our aquatic resources. The increase would nearly double the current \$2.1 million DLNR receives each year from the state's general fund. The extra money would be used to fund programs which bring us closer to sustainability of Hawaii's ocean and stream resources by focusing on such areas as bottomfish recovery, coral reef habitat protection, stream life restoration, and education.

The 1997 legislative session opened Wednesday, January 15. For more information about the state of Hawaii's aquatic resources, see attached.

LICENSES, RULES & REGULATIONS

NEW MINIMUM SIZE FOR GILL NET



Effective January 1, 1997 the legal minimum size stretch mesh for **stationary monofilament gillnets** is 2-3/4 inches. Fishermen must still inspect their gillnets every 2 hours to release undersized, illegal and unwanted catch from the net. Nets may not be set in the water for more than 4 hours in any 24-hour period. The legal minimum size mesh for other net gear varies and fishermen are advised to either check with the current Hawai'i

Fishing Regulations or contact the nearest DOCARE office for the legal mesh size for the net they intend to use.

REMINDERS:



Mullet Season (for 'ama'ama or striped mullet) is closed between December to February. Open Season will resume on March 1st and run till November 30th.

Waikiki Diamond Head Fishery Management Area is closed to fishing from January 1, 1997 to December 31, 1997. The area will be open to fishing from January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1998.

NEW DLNR ONE-STOP SHOP



Our licensing counter has been relocated! We are still in the Kalanimoku Building, but in a different office. For those fishermen that need to **obtain** or **renew a commercial marine license** or **freshwater fishing license**, you can now go to **Room 131** to purchase your license or permit. At the same time you can visit the **New DLNR Visitor Center** and purchase other DLNR items including T-shirts, posters, etc. Also available are camping, hiking, and hunting permits. Licensing hours are between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday except holidays. For licensing information please call:

O'ahu	587-0109
Maui	243-5294
Kaua'i	274-3344
Hawai'i	974-6201
Moloka'i	567-6696

PUBLIC MEETINGS/ HEARINGS

BOTTOMFISH



DLNR will be holding public meetings and hearings on proposed Hawai'i Administrative Rules on bottomfish management (HAR Chapter 13-94). We will announce the schedule as soon as the meeting sites and dates are final. The draft rules include provisions to: 1) **Establish Control Date**, 2) **Prohibit Nets, Trawls, Traps, and Bottomfish Longlines**, 3) **Identify Bottomfishing Vessels**, 4) **Set Bag Limit for Non-commercial Fishing**, & 5) **Area Closures**. Copies of the draft rules and maps of the proposed closed areas will be made available for public review and comment. For further information, contact Walter Ikehara at 587-0096.

OFFSHORE PROJECTS

ARTIFICIAL REEFS

Did you know the DAR has sunk 16 vessels (mostly barges) and added about 30,000 tons of various materials (i.e. derelict cars, damage conduit pipes, concrete slabs & pilings) to 5 established artificial reef sites encompassing an area of almost 2,000 acres? Four of the sites are located around O'ahu and the fifth reef site is located off Kihei, Maui. Their locations are as follows:

Artificial Reef	Location (Rectangle Coordinates)
Maunaloa Bay, O'ahu	a. 21-14.97N, 157-46.57W b. 21-15.23N, 157-46.05W c. 21-15.10N, 157-45.97W d. 21-14.83N, 157-46.48W

Artificial Reef	Location (Rectangle Coordinates)
Wai'anae Art. Reef, off Mā'ili Pt., O'ahu	a. 21-25.58N, 158-11.97W b. 21-25.60N, 158-11.75W c. 21-24.80N, 158-11.90W d. 21-24.80N, 158-11.67W
Kualoa Art. Reef, off Kualoa Pt., O'ahu	a. 21-34.70N, 157-51.15W b. 21-35.07N, 157-50.43W c. 21-31.70N, 157-48.93W d. 21-31.90N, 157-48.40W
Ewa Deep-water Art. Reef, off Ewa Beach O'ahu	a. 21-17.00N, 158-10.52W b. 21-17.12N, 158-01.30W c. 21-16.88N, 158-01.45W d. 21-16.98N, 158-01.22W
Keawekapu Art. Reef off Kihei, Maui	a. 20-41.30N, 156-27.60W b. 20-42.30N, 156-27.50W c. 20-14.80N, 156-27.30W d. 20-41.80N, 156-27.20W

In recent years, approximately 8,000 specially designed tire modules and concrete table structures have been added to the reef sites. Construction and deployment of several thousand newly designed "Z" or "N" fish habitats are planned for the near future.

FAD PROJECT

As you already know, the FAD project was cut from our Division along with the position to maintain it. Fortunately, we were able to restore and continue the project through the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i with some fancy juggling with federal funds. However, this is only temporary and we don't know for how long this will continue. Help us keep the FAD project going by turning in those reports! Let's show the state that the FAD project is important to us and we'd like to keep it!

Missing FADs (as of 12/96):

FAD	Location	Island
UU	ʻĀpua Pt.	Hawai'i
RN	Palima Pt.	Hawai'i
SS	ʻĀpua Pt.	Hawai'i
QQ	Makuu	Hawai'i
T	Makapuu	O'ahu
U	Kaneohe	O'ahu
I	Halona Pt.	Kaho'olawe
FF	Pukaulua Point	Maui
NL	Nu'u Landing	Maui

FAD	Location	Island
M	Hāna Bay	Maui
N	Cape Hālawā	Moloka'i
EK	Hanalei	Kaua'i

Replaced FADs:

FAD	Location	Island
P	Penguin Bank	O'ahu
Z	ʻĀpua Pt.	Kaua'i
DK	Anahola	Kaua'i
KK	Kekaha	Kaua'i

Light Out:

FAD	Location	Island
HH	Pearl Harbor	O'ahu

Top 6 Buoys Statewide Catch Report Summary (Ranking by Total Pounds Landed)

Rank	Buoy	Total lbs Landed	Island
1	BO	185,568	O'ahu
2	X	108,621	O'ahu
3	MC	74,433	Maui
4	E	57,961	Hawai'i
5	II	56,985	O'ahu
6	S	55,705	O'ahu

**Landing data derived from commercial fish catch reports only. Figures compiled by Commercial Stats Dept. Summary based on Calendar Year 1995.*

Next Buoy deployment cruise will be for Maui and Hawai'i counties and is tentatively scheduled for March 1997. For current locations and/or more information, contact Warren Cortez at 848-2939. Also, if you know of any FADs that broke loose, see that any light is out or have any other comments, please give Warren a call.

ʻŌPAKAPAKA TAGGING STUDIES



The Division conducted tagging studies in an effort to better monitor and understand our valuable bottomfish resources.

Approximately 4,000 ʻŌpakapaka were tagged and released statewide. From the recoveries, interesting information on growth rates and movement patterns were obtained.

The growth rate for fish recovered between 7/1/95 and 6/30/96 was roughly estimated at about 2 inches per year. Previously the growth rate was reported at almost 3 inches per year. Longest days of freedom for a fish was 1,638 days. Farthest traveled distance for a recovered fish was 235 nautical miles.

Some Notable Movement of Tagged ʻŌpakapaka (those recovered between 7/1/95 to 6/30/96):

Number Recovered	Tagging Site	Recovery Site
3	Ewa	Ewa
1	Ewa	Ka'ena Pt., O'ahu
1	Ewa	Makapu'u, O'ahu
2	Ewa	Moloka'i
1	Moloka'i	Kahuku, O'ahu
1	Moloka'i	Makapuu, O'ahu
1	Olowalu, Maui	Ki'i, Ni'ihau
63	Moloka'i	Moloka'i

This behavior of channel crossing was previously unknown to both fishermen and scientists, and has implications for fishery management. The Division will pay \$10 for each tag returned with the following information:

1. WHO (name & address of fisherman)
2. WHEN (date)
3. WHERE (location of capture)
4. DEPTH (fathoms)
5. SIZE (tip of mouth to fork of tail in inches)

YOU KEEP THE FISH!

For reward, notify any DAR office:

O'ahu	587-0094
Maui	243-5294
Kaua'i	274-3344
Hawai'i	974-6201
Moloka'i	567-6696